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THE WEATHER: Moderate S-E wind. Cloudy with bright periods this afternoon and patches of light rain this evening. Mild.

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COMMENT OF THE DAY

An Outstanding Leader

WHEN chroniclers of a future age set down the history of France in the 20th century, they will undoubtedly discover in the long list of Premiers of the Fourth Republic that one stood out as a Goliath in the middle and confusion of the nation's politics in the post World War II era. That Premier is, of course, Pierre Mendes-France, whom even headline readers know as the remarkably agile and irrepressible "Mr France". In a little more than six months in office he has to his credit not only the ending of the Indo-China war, but the preparation of a plan for granting a greater degree of self-government to Tunisia (a problem which defied solution by many of his predecessors) and a comprehensive reform plan for the French economy designed to increase national productivity and raise living standards throughout the country.

POLITICALLY he is described as a Radical and a rare brand of radicalism it is, too. When he decided to stamp out alcoholism he fearlessly braved the storm of protests from the wine producers by launching "Drink Milk" campaigns all over the country. And Mr France is no cheap hypocrite. He slips rum himself but when it comes to liquid refreshment he has a clear preference for fresh milk. There is nothing phoney in his personality and as a politician he has demonstrated such remarkable shrewdness and perspicacity that he is certain to be ranked with the greatest of France's 20th century Premiers.

HE is the one person in the National Assembly today who understands and attempts to make allowance for the many shades of political feeling in France. He is a tireless worker and a master tactician and he has been blessed with a golden eloquence and a knife-edged realism which time and time again has converted amorphous feeling within the Assembly into a precise and practical decision. Like a harrying sheep dog he is perpetually driving his orderless flock into line. In presenting his policies he seeks, no self-advancement but is genuinely concerned with the welfare of the nation.

WHETHER he succeeds in getting the Assembly to approve the Paris treaties, or not, he has done more than any French Premier since the E.D.C. plan first came into being to bring his country to accept the idea of a rearmaged Germany working in co-operation with its Western European neighbours. Observers say he may succeed but the Deputies are ganging up on him to overthrow his Government early in the New Year. No politician can expect gratitude for any great achievement he may make during his term of office. Churchill found that out at the end of World War II. Pierre Mendes-France doesn't expect gratitude either, but he deserves the thanks of the Free World for his valiant and unselfish attempts to bring about Western unity and for showing France the proper before it.

HAMMARSKJOLD LEAVES TOMORROW

Flying To Peking Via London And New Delhi TO CONFER WITH CHOU ON GAOLED AIRMEN IN JANUARY

United Nations, Dec. 29.
The Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr Dag Hammarskjold, announced he will leave for Peking tomorrow to seek the release of 11 American airmen imprisoned as spies by Communist China. Mr Hammarskjold will leave New York's Idlewild International Airport accompanied by a party of six. He will fly to London in a Constellation of the U.S. Military Air Transport Service and stay in the British capital until January 1. He then will fly to New Delhi, India, in a British plane and proceed from there to China in a plane provided by the Indian Government. Mr Hammarskjold will confer in New Delhi with the Indian Premier, Mr Jawaharlal Nehru. He will leave the Indian capital on January 3 or 4 to proceed to Canton, China. From Canton, he will fly to Peking, possibly in a Chinese plane.

He was scheduled to confer with the British Foreign Secretary, Sir Anthony Eden during his one-day stay in London. Traveling with Mr Hammarskjold will be Professor Ahmed S. Bokhari, of Pakistan, who becomes Under-Secretary General of the U.N. in New Year's Day. Also in the party will be Per Lind, of the executive office of the Secretary General, a Swede; William Banister, his American personal aide and chauffeur who served in a similar capacity for Trygve Lie when he was Secretary General; Miss Aase Alm, his secretary; Professor Humphrey Waldock, Professor of International Law at Oxford University; and Gustav Nyström, of Stockholm, who will serve as interpreter.

Mr Hammarskjold was instructed by the General Assembly earlier this month to seek the release of the 11 American airmen and other captured personnel of the U.N. Command still detained in Communist China. Mr Hammarskjold was expected to spend about a week in Peking during which time he will confer with the Chinese Premier, Mr Chou En-lai. Since Mr Chou accepted Mr Hammarskjold's offer to visit China on December 17, the time has been spent in making arrangements for the trip, preparing a schedule of transportation and agreeing upon the staff to go to Peking.

U. N. sources said Mr Hammarskjold might return to New York—probably in mid-January.

VAST U.S. MILITARY AID PLAN FOR ASIA \$1,120 Million For 6 Countries

Washington, Dec. 28.
The United States plans to make \$1,120,000,000 worth of military aid available to Formosa, Japan, the Philippines, Indo-China, Thailand and Pakistan under an expanded Asian defence programme for 1955.

Official sources said the Administration was putting the finishing touches to the foreign military plans in which heavy emphasis would be placed on bolstering the defences of non-Communist Asian nations.

President Eisenhower and the Defence Secretary, Mr Charles Wilson, had reportedly agreed on a blue-print which would allocate 80 per cent of all foreign military aid to Asia in the coming year.

PRE-OCCUPATION WITH ASIA
The administration was said to be ready to ask Congress to approve a total of \$1,400,000,000 for the entire programme, probably during January.

The significant increase in Asian defence spending was regarded as clear evidence of the United States swiftly growing pre-occupation with guaranteeing stable government in Asia.

To June this year, about 72 per cent of the total of \$9,400,000,000 spent on world-wide mutual security programmes went to Europe with Asia and the Pacific area receiving only 17 per cent. The remaining 11 per cent went to the Middle East and Latin America.

FIXING A LEVEL
Defence officials here said privately today that Asia's 80 per cent share in 1955 appropriations would in all probability set the foreign military aid spending pattern for several future years, barring war.

The suggested 1955 total of \$1,400 million would be about \$180 million less than President Eisenhower asked Congress for last year.

But the decrease in the requested appropriation did not necessarily mean a slackening in the flow of foreign military aid, a Defence Department official said. There remained substantial carry-over funds from previous appropriations.

Further funds had already been earmarked for sending arms to Korea and Germany.

ECONOMIC AID
The military aid plan for Asia will be in addition to the big new economic assistance programme under discussion by Mr Harold Stassen, the Foreign

Operations Administrator, Mr Eisenhower and Mr John Foster Dulles, the Secretary of State.

Ways of distributing the growing flow of arms for strengthening a bulwark against Communist expansion in Asia are among items to be thrashed out at Southeast Asian defence pact in Bangkok in February.

Under the 1955 military aid programme Japan will be able to draw on equipment for its new air, sea and ground self-defence forces.

UPWARDS SWING
To Indo-China and Thailand will go aircraft, automatic weapons, armed river craft, coastal patrol vessels, communications, artillery, ammunition and minesweepers.

The trend of American military aid to Asia between 1950 and 1955 has been steadily swinging upwards. The monthly average in 1950 was less than \$10 million, whereas in the first half of 1954 it was about \$70 million.—Reuter.

CHILDREN'S LUCKY ESCAPE FROM DEATH IN AVALANCHE

Stockholm, Dec. 28.
An avalanche swept down upon a group of 10 Danish children and their grown-up leader today in the Snasebergarna Mountains, 60 miles west of Ostersund in Northern Sweden, but all survived.

Only two of the children and the leader were caught by the rushing snowfall. It hurled them 70 feet down into a valley. They were buried in the snow but escaped with fractured legs.

While two children on their side set off to the nearest village to get help, the other youngsters managed to dig out the leader and the two buried children.

A helicopter airlifted the three casualties to Hanelöv where they received medical treatment.—United Press.

Solution To The Population Problem?

Berkeley, California, Dec. 28.
A solution to the increasing world population might be found in treating it as it is: cancer, Dr Alan Gregg, Vice-President of the Rockefeller Foundation, said today.

In a report to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, he said that just as malignant cells grew rapidly and sometimes spread all through the body, so the human species had grown and spread through the earth.

He compared the colonisation of underdeveloped parts of the world to the spreading of cancer and the big appetites of cancer cells to the growing demands for humanity for food.—Reuter.

28 KILLED IN BIG P.I. STORM

Manila, Dec. 29.
The most destructive storm to hit Visayas and Mindanao in the central and southern Philippines this year killed 28 people, according to the latest reports from the stricken area last night.

Six people are missing and 70 injured, the reports added. Thousands of people have been left homeless.

Reports by the Philippine News Service and the Red Cross Chapters told of several towns being isolated by landslides, destroyed roads and homes carried away by the floods.

Rampaging floods in at least seven provinces caused damage to crops, properties and public works estimated at US\$1,500,000.

The weather bureau last night located the storm, which had dissipated into a depression, about 400 miles west of Palawan Province, moving away from the country.—France-Press.

Compensation For Loss Of CPA Airliner

Peking Sends Cheque To U.K.

London, Dec. 28.
The Foreign Office today received from Communist China a cheque for £267,000 as compensation for the shooting down of a Cathay Pacific Airways airliner off Hainan last June 23.

Ten passengers were killed when the Hongkong airliner was shot down by Chinese fighters. The Peking Government accepted full responsibility.

The compensation received will be distributed among the families of the victims and among the wounded and includes indemnity to the airline for the loss of its plane.—France-Press.

Dutch Mission Get Peking Orders

London, Dec. 28.
Several contracts have been signed between export corporations in China and a group of visiting Dutch businessmen, and "satisfactory results" have followed their talks, the Communist New China News Agency reported today.

The majority of the Dutch group left Peking today after a stay of 18 days. A few members are staying behind for further discussions.

A joint statement by the business men and the China National Import and Export Corporation, under whose auspices the negotiations took place, said that both countries have considerable requirements for goods and the products of the other country, the agency reported.

Possibilities for the development of reciprocal trade were discussed and as a result, a solid foundation has been laid for further trade developments between China and the Netherlands, the agency said.—Reuter.



H.E. The Governor presents Lady Lo with the M.B.E. (Civil) at the Government House Presentation of Insignias ceremony this morning.

Hongkong Residents Honoured At Government House Presentation Ceremony

Thirty-six Hongkong residents, members of the Services and officials of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, received the insignia of decorations of awards conferred upon them by H.M. the Queen in the Birthday Honours list for excellent work, devotion to duty and loyalty at an impressive ceremony in the Ball Room at Government House this morning.

The presentations which were made by H.E. the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, GCMG, included the CBE, OBE, MBE, BEM (all Civil), MBE and BEM (Military), and Certificates of Honour for valuable services to the Colony.

Prominent among the local residents decorated were Mr L. B. Trevor, General Manager of the Kowloon-Canton Railway who was awarded the CBE; Mr C. B. Burgess, Deputy Colonial Secretary, and Dr Arthur Woo, both of whom were awarded the OBE; the Rev. Bro. L.M.B. Cassian, who received the OBE (Honorary); and Lady Lo, who was awarded the MBE (Civil) for an outstanding record of public service extending over many years.

The citations accompanying the awards were read by the Hon. the Acting Chief Justice, T. J. Gould, who was attired in full bottomed wig and red gown. He was accompanied by Mr L. Altire (Head Bailiff), who was the Mace Bearer.

Seated in the front rows were Lady Grantham, H.E. the Commander, British Forces, Hongkong, and Mrs C.B. Sugden, the Hon. R.B. Black and Mrs Black, Mrs T.J. Gould, the Hon. Sir M.E. Lo, Commodore A.H. Thorold, Air Commodore and Mrs R.C. Field, the Hon. B.C.K. Hawkins, Mr C.B. Burgess, Col. R.B.L. Dowling, Mr P.B. Jennings, Mr L.B. Trevor, Prof. Gordon King, Dr Arthur Woo and Mr Henry Ching.

The following is the list of citations at today's ceremony of presentation of insignia at Government House:

Mr I. B. Trevor, M.C.—C.B.E. (Civil)
Mr Trevor, first appointed in 1924, has been General Manager of Kowloon-Canton Railway since 1946, and has done excellent work in managing the British section of the Kowloon-Canton Railway which a few years ago was the second busiest of all British Colonial railway systems. He has consistently striven for the welfare of officers in his department.

Mr C. B. Burgess—O.B.E. (Civil)
Mr Burgess, in his capacity as Deputy Colonial Secretary and throughout the whole twenty-two years' service has displayed outstanding efficiency in carrying out his duties.

Dr Arthur Woo has been actively associated with many charitable and public services in Hongkong and has always given his wide medical skill and administrative experience to any worthy cause.

Reverend Brother L. M. B. Cassian—O.B.E. (Honorary)
Reverend Brother Cassian has served in Hongkong for 31 years, and has done much to foster good relations with the Colony's administration. He has taken an active part in the Boy Scout movement and has also encouraged schools and teachers to take an interest in the movement. He is a popular member of the community and most highly respected.

Lady Lo—M.B.E. (Civil)
Lady Lo has an outstanding record of public service extending over many years. Having a high sense of duty, Lady Lo has freely given her time, energy and advice in the promotion of numerous charities and good causes.

Mr W. G. Fitz-Gibbon—M.B.E. (Civil)
Mr Fitz-Gibbon, Assistant Registrar, has shown ability of the highest order during his 41 years of service. In recent years, as Chairman of the Special Survey Board, he did excellent work in straightening out stores after the liberation.

(Contd. on back page, Col. 3)

King Peter Ends Divorce Move



Gstaad, Switzerland, Dec. 28.
Former King Peter of Yugoslavia announced today he and his estranged ex-Queen reached a reconciliation during a Christmas holiday in Switzerland.

"Queen Alexandra and I intend to continue to live our lives together," an announcement issued by the ex-King's Press aide, said.

A wife's given our lawyers the announcement said.

Divorce proceedings were started by the ex-King in Paris in October, 1953. The breakdown of 10 years of marriage was reported to have been caused by the king's alleged infidelity.

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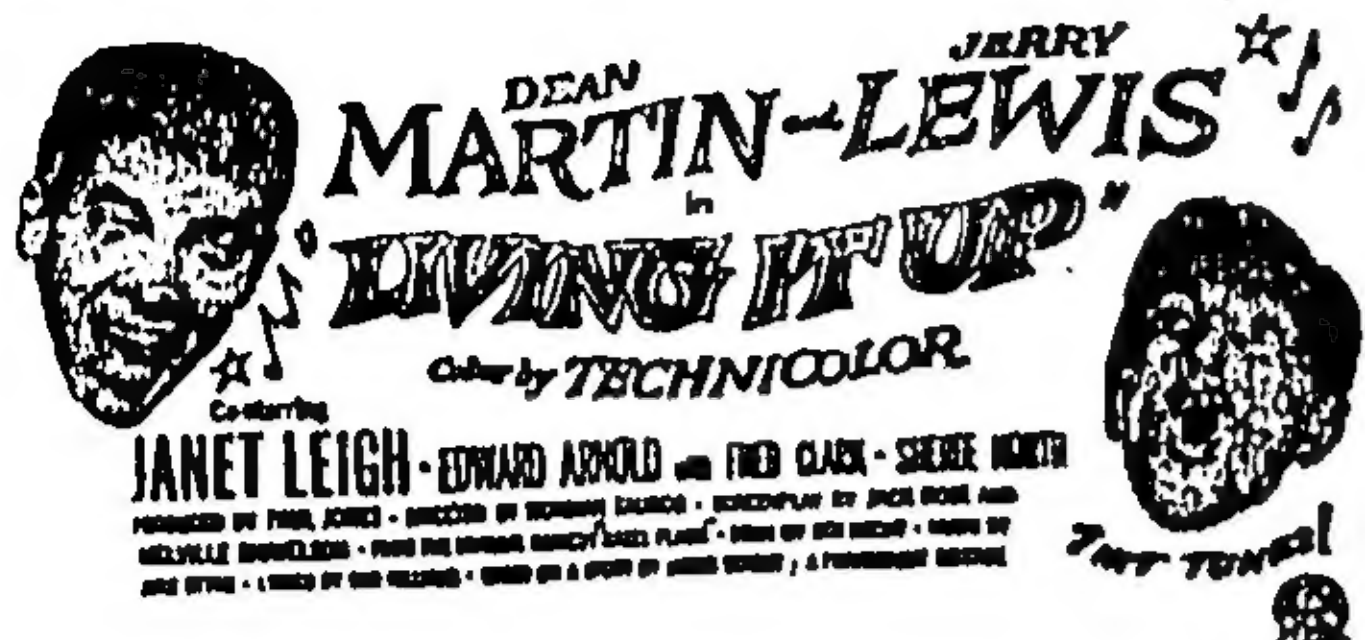
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KING'S PRINCESS EMPIRE

AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M. AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M. AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

4 SHOWS TO-DAY



KING'S PRINCESS

GALA PREMIERE TO-MORROW AT 9.30 P.M.
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LEE GREAT WORLD

DAILY AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
SHOWING TO-DAY



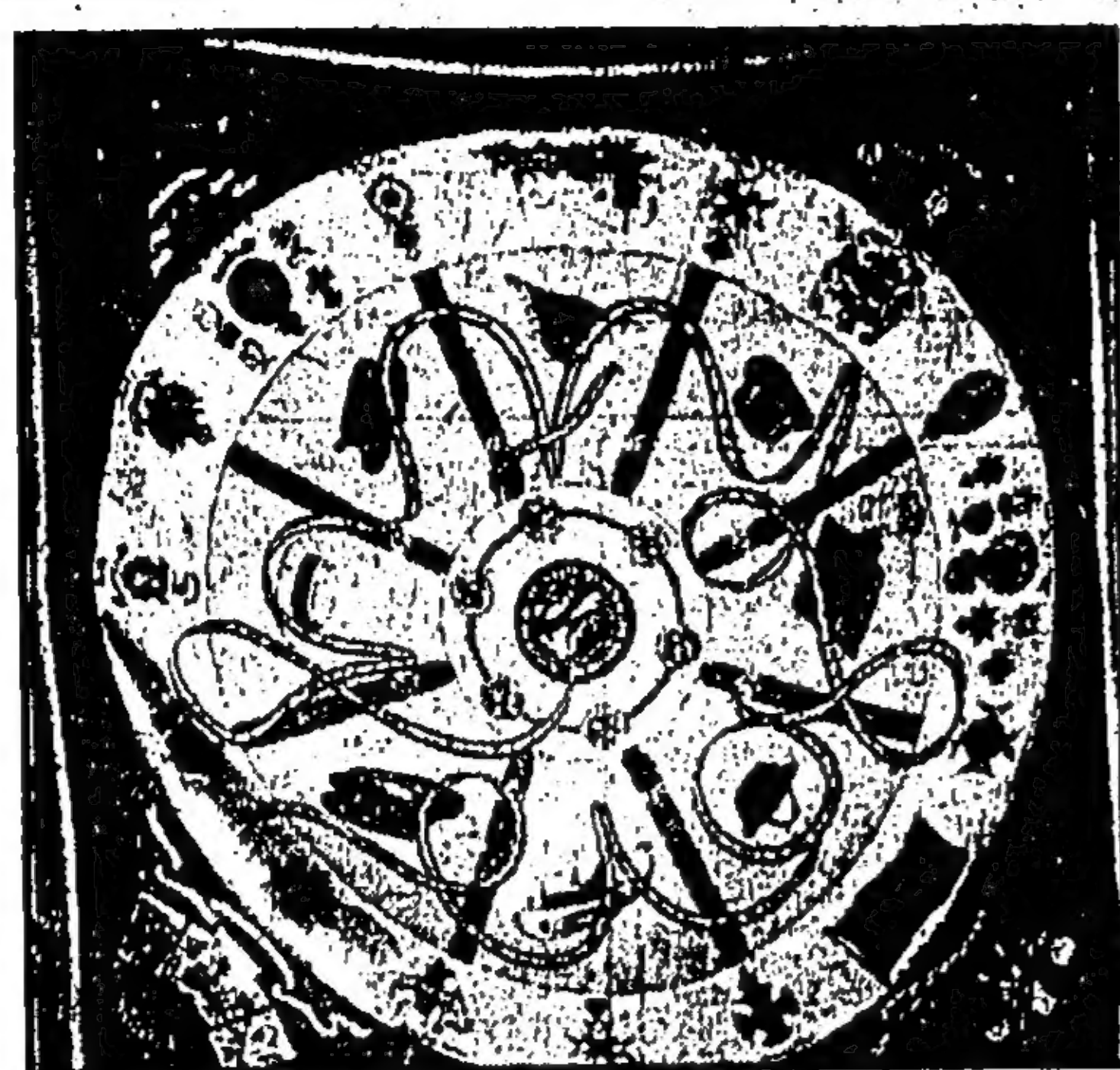
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MR RHEE'S WARNING



This striking scarf is the present of the famous Paris designer Jacques Heim to Sir Winston Churchill on the occasion of the British Prime Minister's 80th birthday. The scarf made of silk features a map of England surrounded by monograms of the six monarchs under whom Sir Winston served. Long clars divide the scarf into equal parts, thus giving it the shape of a ship's helm. In each of the sections, are representative drawings of the Prime Minister's literary work, his favourite hobbies and outstanding episodes of his life.—France-Press Photo.

Colombo Powers To Discuss Invitations

Bogor, Indonesia, Dec. 29.

The Prime Ministers of the five Colombo Powers will conclude a two-day meeting today (Wednesday) with a decision on the crucial question of whether to invite Communist China to next April's conference of African and Asian nations.

The Prime Minister of Indonesia, Mr Ali Sastroamidjojo, the Prime Minister of India, Mr Jawaharlal Nehru, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mr Mohammed Ali, the Prime Minister of Burma, U Nu, and the Prime Minister of Ceylon, Sir John Kotelawala, were to confer from 9 a.m. until noon in the presidential palace at Bogor. They will conclude the second conference of the Colombo Powers' Prime Ministers with an afternoon session from 2.30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

In the first session yesterday afternoon, the Prime Ministers formally authorised Indonesia to convene a conference of African and Asian nations the last week of April in Indonesia.

INVITATIONS

Today they must decide which nations shall receive invitations to the conference which Indonesia views as an effort to bring lasting peace to Asia by reconciling the conflicting viewpoints of East and West.

Those Prime Ministers favouring attendance by Peking were caught in a sort of dilemma, according to neutral observers. However valuable Communist Chinese participation might be, these observers pointed out, the value would be wiped out by the refusal of

some otherwise willing nations to attend the conference.

Some observers saw the possibility of a compromise with China invited to send only observers to next April's conference. But some Prime Ministers were known to regard this as an unworkable arrangement.

The only other nation under serious consideration for inclusion in the conference and around which an argument might develop was Japan.

Some of the Prime Ministers were reported to think that an invitation to China should result in similar treatment for Japan.

The Prime Ministers were conducting their discussion in great secrecy. Every person in the conference room was sworn to secrecy. Armed soldiers kept newsmen 300 yards from the Palace.—United Press.

Hong Kong Birds

Herklotz, G. A. C. 1953. Hong Kong Birds. Pp. vii+233, 11 pls., 8 in colour, numerous black-and-white drawings in text. Hong Kong: South China Morning Post, Ltd. HK\$35.00.

"... a most welcome handbook for ornithologists resident or stationed in Hong Kong. All the hitherto recorded species are included; plumages are clearly and concisely described, and a short account is given of field characters, voice, habits, status, etc. The illustrations, except for three plates of photographs, are all by Cdr. A. M. Hughes, and include four attractive plates of the heads of 42 species and many useful drawings in the text. The writer of this review would have benefited greatly from this book when stationed in Hong Kong some years ago. Even now, on referring to it, some 40 unfamiliar species on which notes were made at the time have almost all proved easily identifiable. — D. W. S.

(Extract from 'The Bird' annual organ of the British Ornithologists' Union, British Museum)

S.C.M. POST HONG KONG KOWLOON

Co-existence Policy Would Lead To Infiltration

Seoul, Dec. 28.

President Syngman Rhee today told American troops his nation was grateful for their "valiant help" in fighting Communist aggression but so far their common objective has not been accomplished.

In an end of the year message to the Army, Navy and Air Force, Mr Rhee said that United States-Korean co-operation "will keep the common enemy as far away from your coastline as possible."

BOXER ARRESTED

Philadelphia, Dec. 28. Joey Giardello, middleweight boxing contender under indictment for allegedly beating a petrol station attendant, was arrested on a disorderly conduct charge today.

The latest arrest stemmed from an argument Giardello had with two policemen who stopped two cars for allegedly going through a stop sign. Giardello's brother Robert, 22, and four friends were in the vehicles. The 24-year-old boxer also was charged with interfering with an officer.

At a hearing, the magistrate, Mr Elias Myers, discharged the six defendants. Giardello was arrested and indicted with three other men on charges of wrecking a South Philadelphia service station last October 29 and beating the attendant after an argument. He was suspended by the Pennsylvania Athletic Commission but the suspension was set aside pending a hearing. — United Press.

Old Master's Work Found In Church

Arezzo, Italy, Dec. 28. Restoration of a mural on the wall of the Church of Santa Chiara a San Sepulchro revealed today an almost intact painting by the Renaissance Master, Piero della Francesca.

The restoration was carried out by Government experts. The painting is estimated to date from about 1460 and shows a figure of a saint dressed in a red robe trimmed with green sleeves and collar. The bottom section of the painting was ruined beyond the possibility of restoration, the experts said.

Elsewhere in the same church, which was built about 1300, a number of wall paintings were found. They were works of the 14th, 15th and 16th Century Tuscan and Umbrian schools.

Meanwhile, in Perugia, in the course of recent restoration of the Church of San Giorgio de Cascia a number of murals of the early 15th Century have been discovered. The paintings are of the Umbrian school. — United Press.

"Due to international politics and the individual views of some world leaders," Mr Rhee said, "we have failed—so far—to accomplish the common objective: the establishment of an independent, united and democratic Korea. With the help of the United Nations forces we have kept the enemy from conquering the rest of Asia and, to that extent, every one of you has succeeded in discharging his sacred duties to your nation and to the cause of common freedom."

"We assure you of our determination to hold our line to the last man," Mr Rhee promised, "and in doing this we will rely on your loyal support and the support of all your friends who fully realise the fact that your security depends on the maintenance of strong front lines in Asia."

"Your fighting here is not only for us and our survival. It is for your own survival, and we also are fighting for you," he said.

"The goal is to make this part of the world safe for democracy because if it does not remain free your homeland will not long remain free."

"Should you accept the idea of co-existence it would be surrender to the enemy."

MUST RESIST

"If America should yield to co-existence the Communists would quickly emerge among the citizenry and suppress those who opposed them with a ruthlessness perfected through the slaughter of millions of non-Communists in Russia and China."

"Unless you successfully resist the Communists they will infiltrate America's political structure with a small but hard core and control national policies. Then it will be too late." — United Press.



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SHOWING TO-DAY

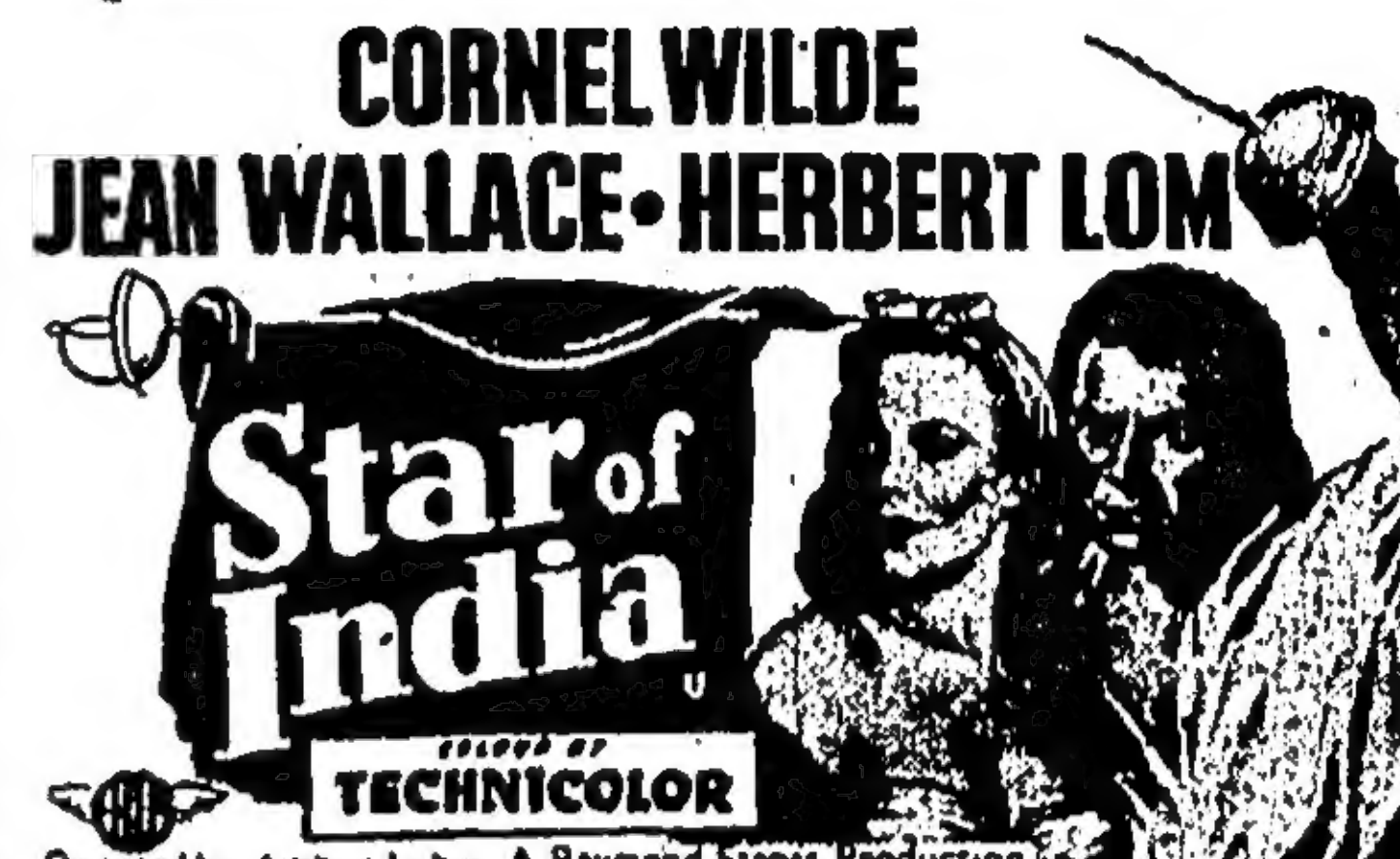


NEXT CHANGE ! Warner Bros. presents in Warnercolor "YOUNG AT HEART" Doris DAY • Frank SINATRA

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AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



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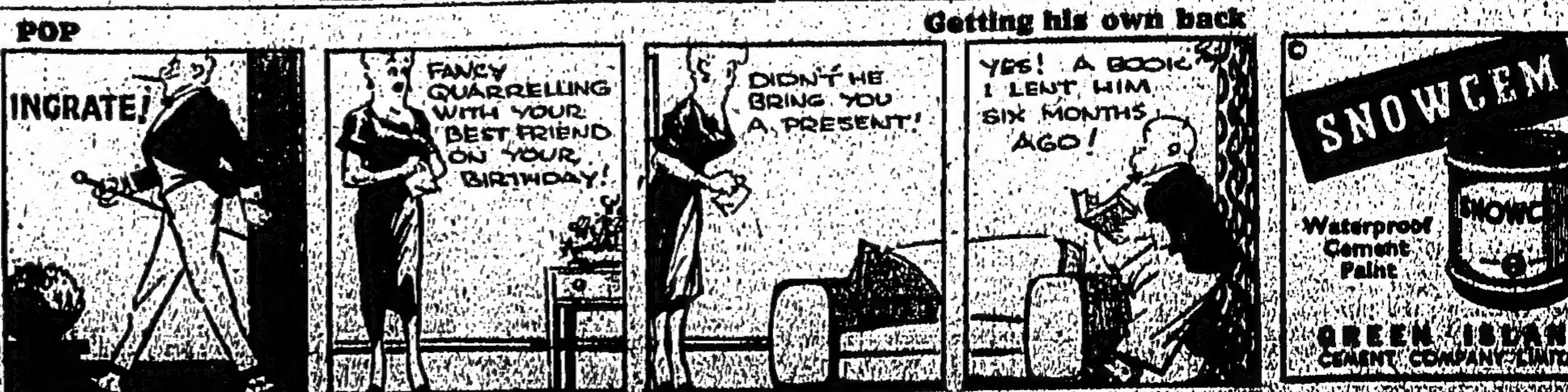
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ON OUR GIANT WIDE SCREEN



COMMENCING TO-MORROW: "KINGS ROW"

Getting his own back



MR FRANCE CONFIDENT



**BOB HOPE
GOING TO
ARCTIC**

Washington, Dec. 28. The Air Force Secretary, Mr. Harold E. Talbot, accompanied by a group of some 20 veterans, headed by Bob Hope, will spend New Year's Eve with officers and men at the remote Air Force base in Thule, Greenland.

It will be the second straight year that Mr. Talbot, along with entertainers, have celebrated New Year's Eve at the Arctic Air base which is approximately 800 miles from the North Pole.

Bob Hope and his group will put on two shows at Thule, a machine for personnel who must stand alert on New Year's Eve and an evening performance for the others.

GOOSE AIR BASE

New Year's Day they will entertain the personnel at Goose Air Base in Labrador.

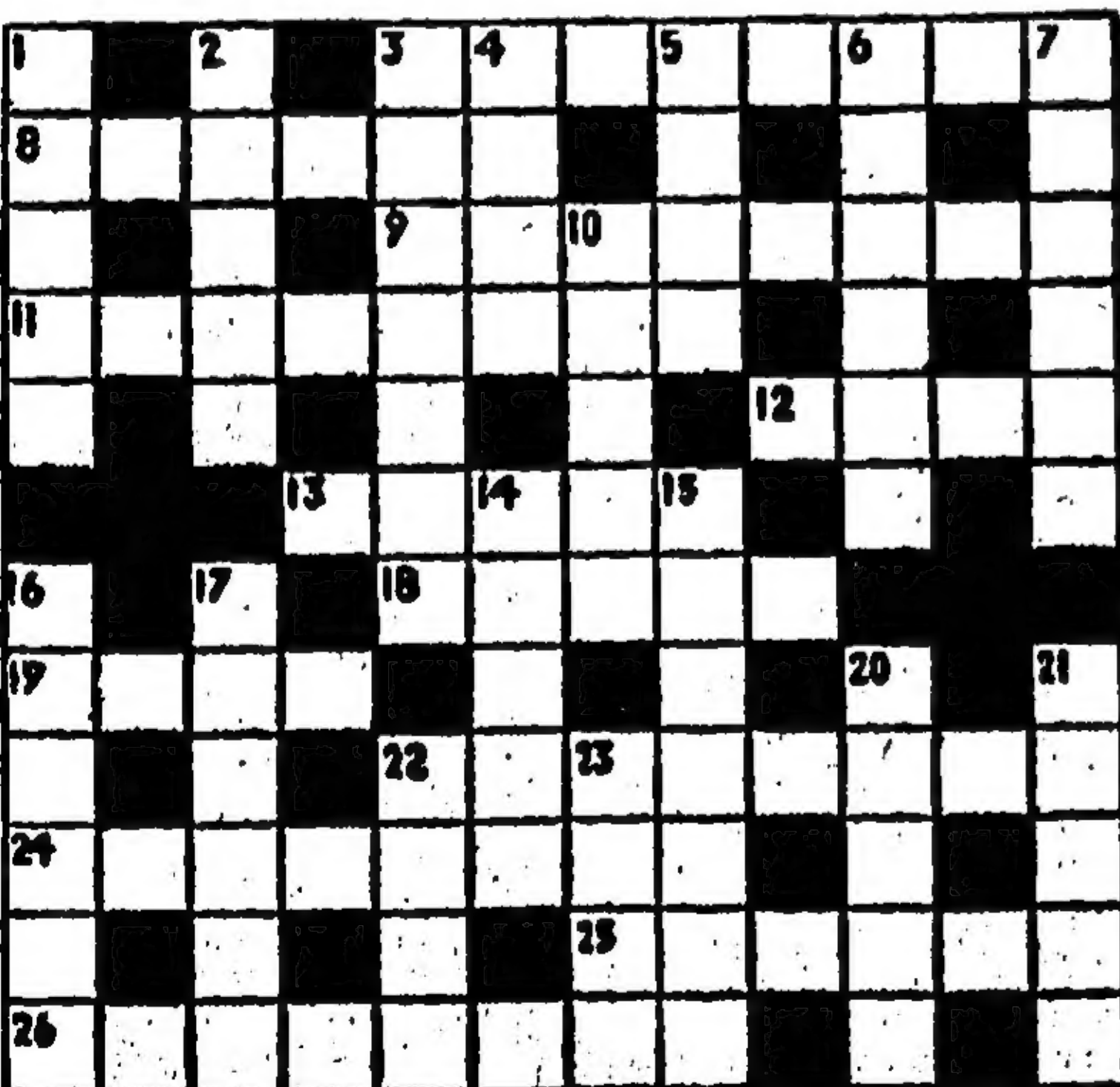
Among the entertainers making the trip are William Holden, Margaret Whiting, Jerry Colonna and Brenda Marshall.

TITO 'SHOTS' TIGER

Gwalior, Dec. 28. Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia shot a tiger today—but only with his camera—while on a hunt organised in his honour by the Indian Government.

Marshal Tito, photographed an Indian officer while he was shooting the only kill of the hunt. A second tiger was wounded and six others sighted during the hunt, which was held in the dense Shivpuri forest.—France-Press.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 3 Deplete (8).
- 8 Magic potion (8).
- 9 Recovering (8).
- 11 Disclosed (8).
- 12 Valley (4).
- 13 Evil spirit (8).
- 16 Tend (5).
- 18 Seed (4).
- 22 Paintings (8).
- 24 Unconquered (8).
- 26 Spanish coin (8).
- 28 Out into ships (8).

DOWN

- 1 Clay (5).
- 2 Slitting utensil (5).
- 3 Freebooters (7).
- 4 Spoken (4).
- 5 Narrated (6).
- 6 Tolerant (8).
- 7 Dropped (6).
- 10 Fruit (5).
- 14 Musical note (5).
- 15 Annyed (7).
- 16 Negligent (6).
- 17 Disagree (6).
- 20 Angler's basket (6).
- 21 Attempt (6).
- 22 Promontory (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 3 Suppress, 7 Treat, 8 Advocate, 10 Ornate, 13 Discard, 16 Read, 17 Elderly, 18 Destard, 20 Aloe, 21 Temples, 22 Resort, 27 Disperse, 28 Trail, 29 Endorse, Down: 1 Blood, 2 Bland, 3 State, 4 Drop, 5 Broom, 6 Steady, 8 Desert, 11 Rival, 12 Axle, 14 Elders, 15 Rump, 16 Alter, 19 Dwindle, 20 Soured, 21 Meets, 22 Loyal, 24 Stole, 25 Puts.

Historic Vote Takes Place Today

WEST EUROPEAN UNION

Paris, Dec. 28.

Opponents of the Western European Union raised a new delaying demand tonight for talks first with Russia, but the Premier, M. Pierre Mendes-France, pushed confidently on for France's historic final vote tomorrow on re-arming Germany.

A rightist Peasant Party Deputy, M. Georges Loustaunau-Lacau, put down a fresh amendment calling for talks with Russia that is doomed in advance.

But despite its advocates' optimism, France's final reluctant approval of German rearmament still is not certain.

American and Allied Embassy circles were cautiously optimistic that the Premier can finally push it through in two final confidence votes tomorrow night in the French National Assembly.

PRIVATE OPTIMISM

M. Mendes-France himself is confident, informed sources said. The French Foreign Office expressed private optimism.

M.P. OUTLINES VIEWS ON SELF-GOVT.

Brussels, Dec. 28.

Mr. Hilary Marquand, Labour Member of the British House of Commons, today outlined the British Labour Party's policy towards self-government in British colonies to an international gathering of Socialist students which is exchanging views on conditions in underdeveloped territories. He also outlined the Trade Union Organisation in the colonies.

The three-day meeting, which was opened here today by Belgium's Socialist Prime Minister, Mr. Archille Van Acker, is to prepare for formal Socialist students conferences on underdeveloped territories to be held in July and December next year.

Today it exchanged views on trade unionism in underdeveloped areas of the British Empire, the Belgian Congo and the French Union.—Reuter.

But it was not to be a fact until the votes are over.

The elected representatives of the French people have proved once again in a week of public debate that they will only put their stamp of approval on re-arming Germany out of fear that the United States and Britain will isolate France if they did not.

The decision was made harder by the interminable plotting that has kept French politics in confusion for generations.

The Communists would gladly rush to the support of the new amendment calling on M. Mendes-France to approach the Russians once more and report back to Parliament before ratifying.

FIRST TEST

But the Premier's first confidence test tomorrow already is aimed partly at such delaying amendments and there was a strong possibility that it cannot even come to a vote.

The swing of some of the rightists and Catholic Popular Republicans (MRP) who supported the European Army pushed through approval of Germany's entry into NATO last night after the Assembly had thrown the whole Western alliance into confusion early on Friday with an initial rejection of the WEU.

A former MRP Premier and Foreign Minister, M. Robert Schuman, the father of European unity, led 17 of the MRP in voting reluctantly for it to avoid wrecking Atlantic solidarity. Then in a confused session lasting until 4 a.m., M. Mendes-France manoeuvred through some complicated technical difficulties and called for his last confidence votes. They will take place sometime after 4 p.m. tomorrow.

They were:

1. To reverse the stunning rejection of WEU by voting a whole separate new ratification bill which also will set up a French Parliamentary Commission to keep a running watch on how the Paris pact is applied.
2. To vote on the entire ratification bill including German entry into NATO, although it already has been approved article by article. It included a clause that Germany must approve the Saar accord along with the other Paris pact before ratification becomes effective.

So the situation, at a glance, was this: German entry into NATO—Approved last night by 259 to 251 votes and up for final approval tomorrow.

SHOW-DOWN VOTE

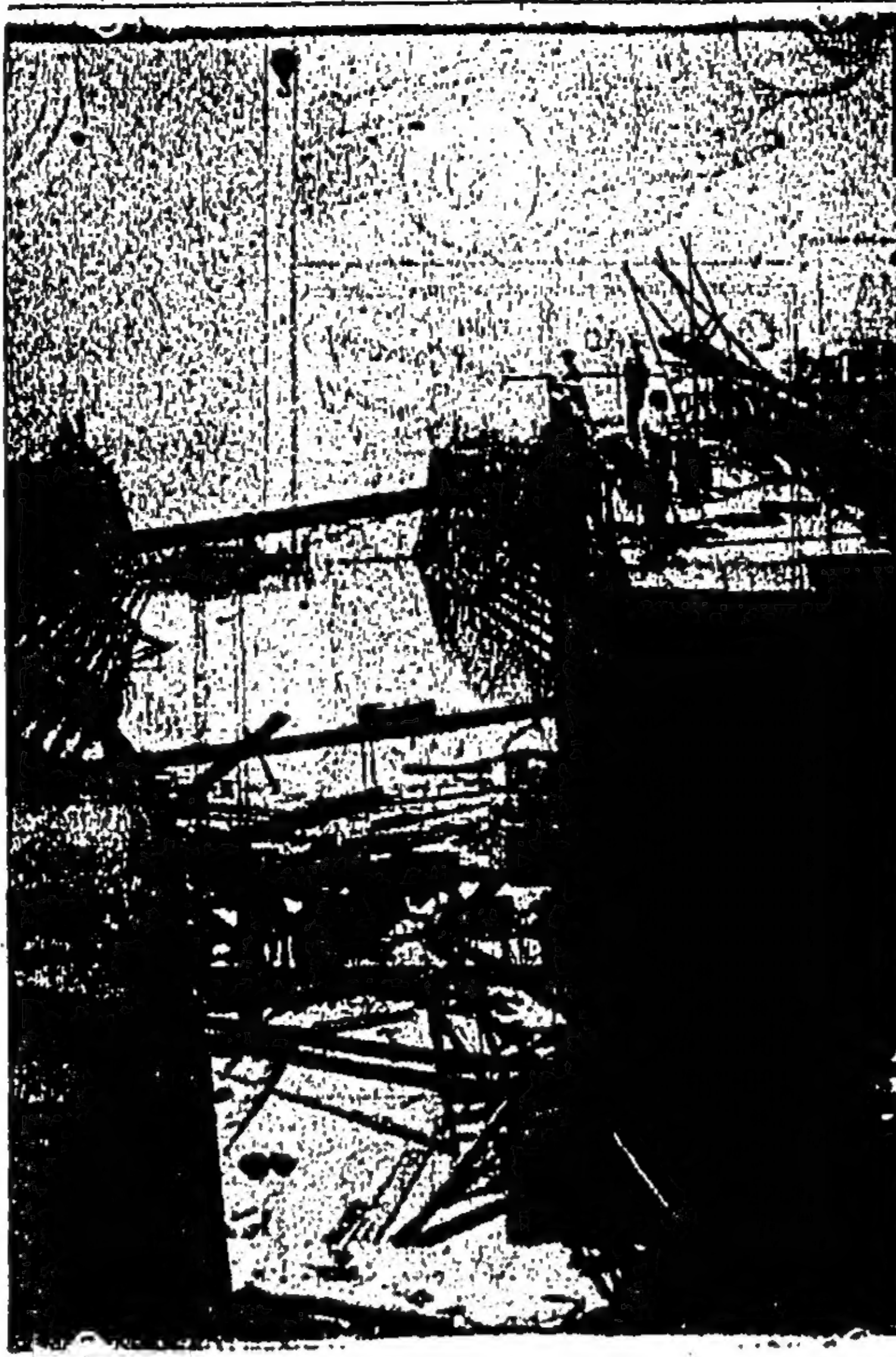
Western European Union—Defeated early on Friday by 250 to 253 votes and up for the show-down confidence vote tomorrow.

Restoration of Germany's sovereignty—Approved early on Friday by 380 votes to 189.

The agreement between France and Germany on the Saar—Approved early on Friday by 368 to 145 votes.—United Press.

ROYAL BIRTH IN JAPAN

Tokyo, Dec. 28. Princess Yuhiko, wife of Prince Mikasa, Emperor Hirohito's youngest brother, gave birth to a third son at the Prince's residence in Tokyo today this morning (Wednesday). The Princess now has two daughters and three sons.—China Mail Special.



When the steel colossus of one of the dry docks at Chatham Dockyard, England, collapsed and was thrown into the dock, the dry dock was immediately flooded. The submarine Talent, undergoing repairs in the dock at the time, was swept into the river Medway and went aground on a mudbank. Four workmen lost their lives and several were injured. This picture shows the wrecked dock.—Express Photo.

CHILDREN'S FRIEND KILLED IN PLANE CRASH

Linz, Dec. 28.

An American pilot known as "Uncle Sam" to thousands of children for his mercy missions throughout Austria was killed today when his plane crashed on a routine test flight.

The same little plane that brought acclaim to Captain John Heyes, 36, of Dedham, Massachusetts, carried him to death in the hills 10 miles from Linz. An enlisted man died with Captain Heyes, but his name was withheld pending notification of his next of kin. Captain Heyes was a U.S. Army aviator who became the personification of the United States to Austrians of all ages.

His little Army reconnaissance plane turned up when they were in trouble and they nicknamed him "Uncle Sam."

Last winter he rescued avalanche victims. Last summer he aided sufferers during the Danube floods. At various times he carried more than 100 children for high altitude treatment of whooping cough.

Youngsters liked "Uncle Sam." He liked them too. He adopted an Austrian orphan and only this month applied for a visa to take the child home to the United States.

Captain Heyes was a veteran of World War II, in which he received the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star, the Air Medal and other decorations. Stationed here, he married Edith Eggers of Germany and they adopted an Austrian boy.

Finishing up his tour of duty in Austria, Captain Heyes was on a routine instrument-testing mission when his L-17 single-engine monoplane crashed near the village of St. Marien.—United Press.

3RD DIVISION BACK HOME

Liverpool, Dec. 28.

The 3rd British Infantry Division, sent to Egypt during the trouble there three years ago, are arriving at Liverpool tonight in the troopship Lancaire at the end of their term of overseas service.—China Mail Special.

Not THE Churchill

Rochester, Victoria, Dec. 28.

Rocked twice when he received a letter from a Winston Churchill asking payment for two foxes. But it was not Sir Winston, the British Prime Minister, but Winston A. Churchill, of Melbourne, who had been taking part in a pet hunt.—China Mail Special.

Forecast Own Death

Lisbon, Dec. 28.

A 65-year-old man, apparently in perfect health, forecast his own death the day before it happened, according to the Lisbon newspaper "Diario de Noticias."

Manuel Rodrigues, who lived in Sepores, a village in the north of Portugal, suddenly had the feeling that he was going to die.

He went to confession and received the last sacraments. Then he visited his friends to say goodbye.

After that he went home to bed, where he died at 3 a.m. the next day, the newspaper reported.—China Mail Special.

SURVEY OF E. GERMAN JUSTICE

Berlin, Dec. 28.

East German courts have sentenced four persons to death, 15 to life imprisonment and imposed a total of 2,719 years' imprisonment, the West Berlin Information Bureau said today.

The anti-Communist fact-finding bureau said in a private survey of East German justice that Communist courts held 230 trials in which defendants were accused of political crimes.

The bureau said its survey only included trials it was able to trace through a systematic check of East German newspaper reports. It said the real figure of East German trials, many of which have been held secretly, was believed to be higher.

SABOTAGE

Among the victims of East German courts were former Foreign Minister Herr Georg Doring, sentenced to 15 years for espionage, and a former Supply Minister, Herr Karl Hamann, sentenced to 10 years for sabotage.

Two East German Under-Secretaries of State were sent to prison for a total of 12 years on similar charges.

The bureau said that Herr Max Fechner, East German Minister of Justice, who was fired from his post last year for appearing anti-Communist rebels, is awaiting trial.—United Press.

Fails To Pass Resolution

Tel-Aviv, Dec. 28.

The Syrian-Israeli Mixed Armistice Commission today failed to pass a Syrian draft resolution condemning Israel for intercepting a Syrian passenger airliner on December 12 and forcing it to land at Lydda airport, an Israeli army spokesman announced tonight.

The spokesman said that the United Nations Commission for Concessions, Lieutenant-Colonel G. Castonguay, abstained from voting, and thus the Syrian motion failed to be adopted. The chairman explained his abstention saying that the Armistice Commission was not competent to deal with the case. The Israeli authorities have said that the aircraft violated Israeli air-space and entered Israel's control zone without permission.—Reuter.

ISLAND EARTHQUAKES

State Of Emergency Declared In Stricken Area

Messina, Dec. 28.

A state of emergency reigned on the tiny island of Salina, off the north coast of Sicily, today in the wake of yesterday's eleven-hour series of earthquake shocks.

Panicky peasants and fishermen refused to go back to their homes although the last earth tremor hit the 10-square-mile island at 1630 (1430 GMT) yesterday. The 1,700 islanders camped in the open under tents hastily rigged by Red Cross officials.

Men, women and children lined up at field kitchens for their meals. They lived in constant fear of a new series of shocks and their fears were kindled by memories of an earthquake disaster which killed 75,000 on December 28, 1908.

In Messina today citizens commemorated the 46th anniversary of the disaster with a pilgrimage to the cemetery and with special Masses.

Red Cross officials who returned to Palermo from the island said there was hardly a house that had not been damaged in some way by the quakes.

After minor warning tremors during recent days the quake struck in earnest at 0430 yesterday. Thirty successive shocks set the island trembling and tumbled houses for 11 hours. But no deaths were reported among the earthquake-wary inhabitants of the volcanic island. About 20 were reported slightly injured by falling masonry.

Technical experts from the Messina Geophysics Institute said the centre of the earthquake was in the Mediterranean between the islands of Salina and Stromboli.

They said it probably was linked with the December 6 eruption of the Stromboli volcano.

Other islands in the Lipari group also felt the shock, but Salina was hardest hit. The little port of Malfa on Salina's North shore bore the brunt of the damage.

The church of Santa Maria di Salina in the small town of Lingu caved in tonight as the faithful were attending a special service. The congregation ran outside as soon as the Church started rocking.—United Press.

BLAZING SHIP MOVED

Singapore, Dec. 28.

The 5,720-ton Danish freighter Lexa Maersk which has been blazing for 72 hours since Christmas Day, was towed two miles from her original position and beached on the eastern coast of Singapore shortly after noon today.

This step followed consultations between the Port authorities and the agent's representatives and officials of the Harbour Trust. It was agreed that it would be dangerous to ship the Lexa Maersk were to sink in her original position which is just outside the explosive anchorage.

SMOKE FALL

Thick, black smoke billowing from the blazing ship rose more than 500 feet high and could be seen for miles around. Singapore Police boats took up positions round the ship to keep away unauthorized persons.

Meanwhile, the six American and two Australian passengers are being accommodated in a first class hotel pending the arrival of the agent's officials from Copenhagen who are due here tomorrow and the setting up of a court of inquiry.

All the passengers lost practically their entire personal belongings. The two Australian passengers, Mr and Mrs G. E. Standish, who are stationed in Singapore with a commercial firm, were able to start a new wardrobe, but the four American girls have nothing except the dresses they have on.—United Press.

Franco To Meet Pretender

Madrid, Dec. 28.

The Spanish chief of State, General Francisco Franco, is to meet the Spanish Pretender, Don Juan, tomorrow in the Spanish province of Caeres to discuss the programme of higher education which Don Juan's eldest son, Prince Juan Carlos, should follow.

The meeting is the first between the two in many years. As a result of preliminary talks between their representatives, General Franco and Don Juan are expected to reach agreement on the matter.

General Franco thinks that the young prince should be educated in a number of military schools in Spain and that his tutor should meet with both the approval of his family and that of the State. Don Juan, who lives in Exile, Portugal, would like to see his son get his higher education in a Belgian university.

The latest information indicated that Don Juan will accept General Franco's view. It seems unlikely that in their meeting they will discuss the delicate question of the Spanish succession, as there are a number of difficulties still to be solved in this connection.—France Press.

U.S. MAY BUY 'FINS' TO KEEP HER SHIPS STEADY

London, Dec. 28.

Ship "fins" are likely to become a big item in Britain's dollar export trade—because an American executive was so impressed aboard one of Britain's latest luxury liners fitted with anti-rolling devices.

The executive, Mr R. C. Lee, vice-president of a big liner fleet, went on a 12-day cruise from London to Casablanca in the 29,000-ton Arcadia.

Now, two 23,000-ton liners which his shipping line are to build will be fitted with anti-rolling "fins"—the first American vessels to carry the equipment. The installation will be carried out if it can be done at reasonable cost. Cost, however, is not the only factor. The fins are being subsidised and because of this must use American equipment. There is a clause in the subsidy regulations which allows ships to use imported equipment which cannot be obtained in the United States. This clause is likely to come into operation for the "fins" which are costly British inventions and development. The "fins" by keeping a ship steady in heavy seas, give passengers more comfort, reduce costs of broken crockery, and save fuel because a vessel can be kept on a steady course. London Reuters Service.

W. German Rivers Subside

Hanover, Dec. 28.

West Germany's swollen rivers rolled back toward normal levels tonight after two days of high water that covered farmlands, blocked roads, and left at least two persons dead.

Wide areas along the Weser, Elbe, Lahn, Main, and Neckar Rivers were spared further flood danger when steady rains let up as sharp temperatures dropped from melting in the mountains.

Two German women were killed near Stuttgart last night when their small motor car plunged into the swollen Neckar River, a tributary of the Rhine. Further casualty reports may have been delayed because some neighbourhoods are still cut off by downed telephone lines.—United Press.

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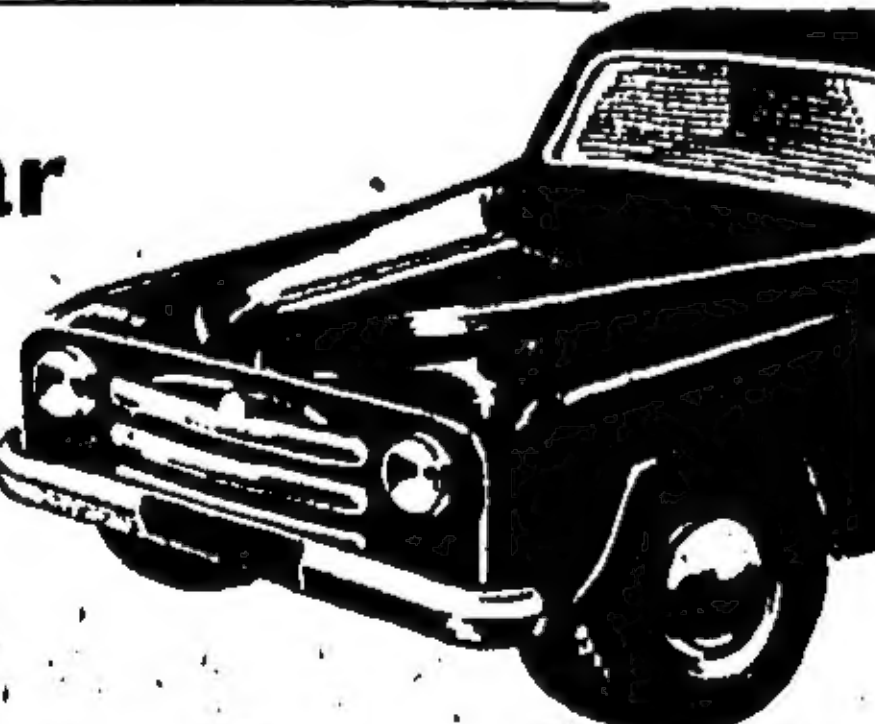
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MERRY CHRISTMAS IN CHINA



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foreign spy named Hammerskjöld, disguised
and carrying chair in bag, dropped by parachute.
Arrested. Will get ten years.



LOW'S CHRISTMAS CARDS



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THE HARRY OF BOND STREET

KENDALL McDONALD
tells another of the World's Strangest Stories



"TELL your fortune, sir. Only a penny." The fawning voice checked the man's glass half-way to his lips.

Had there been anything vaguely pleasant about the fortune-teller the man would doubtless have paid just for the amusement of hearing a cunning string of lies. But the woman was repellent.

Her sallow face held two shifty eyes above a strongly hooked nose and a thick-lipped mouth. So unpleasant was she that the man turned quickly away and joined in the conversation of his neighbour in the public bar.

The year was 1883. Some ten years later the fortune-teller—Sarah Rachel Leverson—was to figure in a trial that brought London society flocking to the Old Bailey, but not before she had amassed, at the rate of some £20,000 a year, a huge fortune from duping and blackmailing wealthy London society women—merely by exploiting their vanity.

The step between selling penny fortunes and becoming the most talked of woman in London would probably never have happened but for a kindly doctor in King's Cross Hospital. For Rachel Leverson caught a fever. Part of the treatment was to shave off the one beautiful thing she possessed—her flowing dark hair.

THE medical man, to pacify her, told her that he would give her something that would make her hair grow rapidly and be more beautiful than ever. And Nature was so bountiful that her hair grew most wonderfully fast, at which she was so delighted that she asked the doctor for the recipe.

This, according to a contemporary report, was the inspiration. It is probable that Rachel Leverson decided there and then in her hospital bed, to exploit the vanity of women to all her purse. When she was discharged she found, even in the slums, vanity enough to pay for the "miracle bottles" she was soon hawking round.

It was some years before she could give enough to move to the West End and richer pastures. Madame Rachel, as she then called herself, did things thoroughly.

Early morning shoppers in Bond Street could hardly miss the new shop. Huge letters across the front carried the

slogan "Beautiful for Ever," and beneath these words were shown a glittering collection of cosmetics with fancy Oriental names, priced as high as two hundred guineas for a small bottle.

The fantastic prices, instead of frightening women away, only made the little bottles that would make them "beautiful for ever" more desirable. It never seemed to have crossed the minds of her foolish clients that if Madame Rachel could make them beautiful, her potions and creams might have had some effect on her own features. The rich clothes she now wore did little to mitigate her own ugliness.

Her fawning tongue and flattery, however, kept many in the shop who would otherwise have left at the first sight of the woman who ran it. Some of these who stayed soon found there was another not so pleasant side to Madame's tongue.

Illness robbed her of her only good feature—her hair...but that gave her the "inspiration" which changed her from a penny-a-time fortune-teller to a £20,000-a-year crook

Few women talked of their visits to Madame's establishment. There were rumours of lost jewels and of Madame Rachel's simple answer—"If you say anything, I shall tell your husband you came here to meet a lover."

With blackmail in the back and beauty in the front, Madame Rachel's parlour prospered. She took a luxurious house in the West End, and employed a large staff of servants to look after her. Each day she was driven in her own coach in Hyde Park by liveried servants.

It was about this time that she started the affair which was to bring her downfall. A new customer arrived one morning.

MRS Mary Borradaile was in her fifties, the widow of a cabinet maker, killed in the Indian Mutiny, who had left her a nice little fortune. Madame Rachel was delighted. She even reduced her price for "the full treatment" from £1,000 to £100. Mrs Borradaile was to be beautiful for ever.

After a course of baths and lotions—Madame had thoughtfully told her not to expect any immediate change in her homely features—a new routine was worked out specially for the foolish widow.

She was told that shortly after her last visit a nobleman of very high birth had become enamoured of her. He had caught a glimpse of her through a crack in the wall of the room in which she took her baths. Such was the persuasive power of Madame Rachel's tongue and so great was the vanity of Mrs Borradaile that she never doubted that a nobleman of such decency and high breeding could descend to "peeping" through cracks in bathroom walls.

Madame Rachel then said that the nobleman desired to marry her and to a village added that the man was Lord Borradaile.

This completely turned the widow's head. Lord Borradaile was no longer young, it was true, but he was handsome and a member of one of the best families in the country.

And in this bewildered state of high delight Mrs Borradaile signed the cheque for the balance of the full beauty course—£200.

Lord Borradaile had, of course, never seen Mrs Borradaile. So it was sheer luck for Madame Rachel that he visited the shop in Bond Street on one occasion when the widow was there. Somehow or other Madame Rachel contrived an introduction. Lord Borradaile exchanged a few polite words with the heavily made-up woman with the yellow-lined hair and left the shop.

Madame Rachel explained that he wanted the whole thing kept secret until he married Mrs Borradaile. He had told Madame Rachel that he would write using the name of "William" as a cover for his real identity.

The letters duly started to arrive. This fact, that, although full of love for "My Own Beloved Mary," the letters were hardly those of an educated man was explained away by the story that he had hurt his hand and was getting, his valet to write them for him.

MRS Borradaile next parted with £400 to buy lace for her trousseau; a small fortune for further baths and treatments and £1,400 for jewellery which Madame Rachel put in "safe keeping" for her (although it was discovered that Madame sold it back to the jeweller a few days later).

The final clean-up of Mrs Borradaile deprived her of silver plates, rings, family seal, letters from her late husband, and her marriage settlement.

Then all the widow's money was gone and Madame Rachel, the Harry of Bond Street, made her big mistake. She applied for a warrant for the arrest of Mrs Borradaile and had her put into Whitecross Street Prison for debt.

Lord Borradaile was called to give evidence. He declared Madame Rachel's story as "too ridiculous for words" and "monstrously false from beginning to end."

Counsel for the prosecution quickly destroyed a thin defence and asked laughter excited some of the potions also used in her beauty salon and their prices: "The Royal Arabian Toilet of Beauty," as arranged by Madame Rachel for the Sultan of Turkey, the facsimile of which is used by the Royal European Brides. Prices from 100 guineas to 1,000. Jordan Water ("brought by swift dromedaries from the River Jordan"). Price: 20 guineas. "Dew of Sahara for Removing Wrinkles"....

The jury were out for four hours. They disagreed. A second trial began on September 21, 1888.

There's no harm in ordering it, old man. I suppose you're still doing the wife's shopping?

"Like you, I've been doing it ever since I retired. But I don't think there'll be a shortage of anything this year. For the first time since 1859 the customer will be always right."

Still, I know one customer who's not taking any chances. You don't mean to say he's got his turkey already?

You'll hardly believe it but he went up to Norfolk two months ago to choose a chick. He had a label with his name on it tied to its leg and he told them to feed it on cream. Cream, old man?

It makes them very fat and tender, old man. Better than milk. But what do you think happened?

No idea, old man. It died of fowl pest. That's the only laugh I've had since the Test Match.

Same here. But you know what's going to happen now? He'll grab the best turkey in the town.

Others can play at that game, old man. But others won't devote so much time and energy to it. He's spent a whole week, basting Sundays, prodding poultry and pinching turkey breasts.

I think it's disgusting, old man. If he can't reach them with his fingers he pokes them with his umbrella.

But down the backwash of my old man!

NATHANIEL GUBBINS

BEFORE me on the desk was an interview in a newspaper with Miss Nora Herdman, who writes Christmas card rhymes for a living and is known as The Jingle Queen.

As Albert, The Robot Columnist, can produce verse almost without effort I asked him if he would care to have a shot at it.

"There's money in it, Albert," I said. "How much?" "I don't know. But this is the sort of stuff Miss Herdman is working on at the moment."

"Sweet are the thoughts it brings Of those who are dear, both far and near, And old familiar things. Over to you, Albert."

"Right. How's this?" "Sweet is the message of Christmas. Sweet are the thoughts, not new, Of what are you likely to give to me So what must I give to you?"

"No Christmas-card manufacturer would pay for that, Albert. It's too near the truth. Here is another example of Miss Herdman's work with her own exclamation marks."

"Christmas! Let's be gay! And how I hope it brings The best of luck your way And many pleasant things. Over to you."

"Right. Christmas! Let's be gay! And may you listen in To the broadcast they're doing on Christmas Day Of the bombs dropped on Japan."

"No good at all, Albert. Let's avoid parodies of Miss Herdman's work. What is your favourite Christmas-card rhyme?"

"One I read last year. It was 'Keep your robins' keep your snow, Give me Marilyn Monroe.' That was written by an irreverent university undergraduate. Try something thoughtful and sincere."

"OK. This comes from the heart: 'Nuts to turkey, nuts to pud, Nuts to doing people good. Why not spend your Christmas Day With a blonde fur, far away?' 'Careful, Albert!'

'With a blonde so far away, Hip hip-hip, hip-hip hooray! Away from playing silly games Round the fire with ancient dames. Instead of playing games that tire, Go abroad and play with fire.' 'That will do, Albert.' 'Go abroad to gay Porce.' 'I said that will do.' 'He-he, he-he, he-he, he-he.'"

Gentlemen In Retirement

GOT your turkey yet, old man? Well, not yet, old man. After all, it's still three weeks to Christmas.

There's no harm in ordering it, old man. I suppose you're still doing the wife's shopping?

Like you, I've been doing it ever since I retired. But I don't think there'll be a shortage of anything this year. For the first time since 1859 the customer will be always right.

Still, I know one customer who's not taking any chances. You don't mean to say he's got his turkey already?

You'll hardly believe it but he went up to Norfolk two months ago to choose a chick. He had a label with his name on it tied to its leg and he told them to feed it on cream. Cream, old man?

It makes them very fat and tender, old man. Better than milk. But what do you think happened?

No idea, old man. It died of fowl pest. That's the only laugh I've had since the Test Match.

Same here. But you know what's going to happen now? He'll grab the best turkey in the town.

I've told you the customer's always right this Christmas. But they're getting pretty fed up with him at the grocers.

There's nothing to prod and pinch there, old man.

Oh, yes there is. He prods the dates and figs and pinches the biscuits.

Do you mean he steals them, old man?

He says he wants to try them. But you'd think he'd know what they were like after eating one instead of a handful. Then he tries the cheese and a bit of sausage and a slice of cooked ham.

Practically a full meal, old man.

Precisely, old man. They had to ask him to leave when they found him with his fingers in a jar of preserved ginger.

It's not hygienic, old man.

Of course it's not. No wonder there's so much gastric flu about.

Somebody ought to write to the public health department, old man.

If he can't keep his fingers to himself somebody will send for the police. Having a quick one before you cook the wife's lunch, old man?

No, thanks. I still have to do me grates. So long, old man. So long, old man.

Christmas Day

YOU must now imagine the home of a kiddie-worshipper on Christmas Day. He has five children, and their loving father has armed them with the toys mentioned. One guest is a highly strung uncle who has been on a bit of a bender the night before.

The highly strung uncle, an ex-Army man, is trying to sleep late when he thinks he hears reveille. Half awake, he also thinks the bugle is being pressed against his ear. He is right, except that it is not a bugle but the glisening gold trumpet being played on all four notes with valve action by one of the dear little boys.

Leaping out of bed, the uncle's bare feet are struck a painful blow by the toy lawn mower driven straight at him by another dear little boy; and he is played to the bathroom by a dear little girl strumming hideous sounds on the Ukulele.

Severely shaken, the uncle carves his face badly while shaving and nearly has his ear off when there is a wall of agony downstairs. At first he thinks a dear little kiddie is being strangled and is alarmed of a momentary feeling of relief. But it is only another dear little girl playing with her toy car, speed cop, and shrieking siren.

At heart the highly strung uncle is a decent sort of chap, even fond of children up till now. He thinks, well Christmas is Christmas. Perhaps they'll soon tire of their toys and he will have a chance to recover his nerve. But he doesn't know what's coming to him.

As he enters the dining-room for breakfast a dear little boy, taking cover behind the settee, opens fire with the water gun. With telescopic sights the dear little chap can't miss. He hits the highly strung uncle first in one eye and then the other. As the uncle turns his head he gets it in the right ear. He turns again and gets it in the left ear. "Let him have the lot," the dear little children yell, sounding trumpet and siren for the kill.

Before the highly strung uncle can escape "the raging, dandy stream" hits him full in the face and he has to go upstairs to change his shirt.

Did the uncle have a lovely, happy Christmas?

(World Copyright)

POCKET CARTOON
By OSBERT LANCASTER



JACOBY ON BRIDGE

Accept Errors As Part of Game

By OSWALD JACOBY

NOBODY plays errorless bridge. You must expect to make an occasional error of your own, although it is to be hoped that you will make very few, and you must expect your opponents to stumble now and then also. When they do, be ready to take advantage of their lapses.

In today's hand, for example, West opened the king of hearts, and declarer made the sad mistake of winning immediately with dummy's ace. If you had made the same mistake, don't tell anybody. We'll see later on what is wrong with that play.

After making his mistake, South led a diamond to the ace and returned a heart towards the dummy. West naturally hopped up with the queen of hearts and returned.

Well, what would you return if you were West, to take full advantage of declarer's mistake?

When Chagett Bowle, the well-known expert of Towson, Md., had the West cards he saw that South was trying to cash back to dummy in order to cash the top diamonds. There was only one way to keep South out of the dummy. Bowle returned the king of spades!

This sacrificed a trump trick, to be sure, but the sacrifice paid off. South could win six trump tricks and his three side aces.

NORTH (D)			
♠ J	♥ A J	♦ K Q J 7	♣ 10 8 7 6 5 2
WEST			
♠ K 6 4	♥ 5 3 2	♦ A Q 10 9 8 7	♣ 5 3 2
♠ A 3	♥ K Q 10 9	♦ 8 4 3	♣ 10 9 8 5 2
♠ K J 9	♥ A 3	♦ 10 8 7 6 5 2	♣ 10 9 8 5 2

SOUTH			
♠ A Q 10 9 8 7	♥ 7 6 5 3	♦ A 3	♣ A 3
North-South vul.			
North	East	South	West
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
2 N.T.	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		
Opening lead—♥ K			

but these came to a total of only nine tricks. The defenders scored 10 points, thanks to Bowle's fine defensive play.

Now let's go back to South's play. As you see, good defense beats him if he wins the first trick in dummy with the ace of hearts. No defense can touch him if he refuses the first trick. And this is, of course, the very best reason for refusing it.

If the defenders continue with another heart, South wins in dummy, gets to his hand with the ace of diamonds, and ruffs a heart in dummy. He is now in position to cash two high diamonds in order to discard his last heart and a club. He must lose a trump trick, but he makes the rest, scoring game, rubber, and an overtrick.

If the defenders lead anything but a heart at the second trick, the ace of hearts remains in the dummy as an entry to the diamonds. For example, suppose West shifts to a club, which happens to be his best defence. South wins with the ace, clears the ace of diamonds out of the way, leads a heart to the ace, and cashes two high diamonds to discard a club and a heart. Now he cannot lose his contract, and if he makes the right decision he can make an overtrick.

♥ CARD SENSE ♦

Q—With neither side vulnerable, the bidding has been:

North	East	South	West
1 Spade	2 Clubs	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass		

You, South, hold: Spades 8-2, Hearts 9-7-3, Diamonds K-9-7-2, Clubs Q-10-5-3. What do you do?

A—Pass. You will probably take two clubs and a diamond trick on defence, and your partner's strong bidding indicates that he can take at least three tricks himself. Hence you will probably beat two clubs, and you may often make that contract. Even if East makes two clubs he will not score a game for it, so little harm will be done.

TODAY'S QUESTION

The bidding is the same as in the question just answered. You, South, hold: Spades 8-2, Hearts 9-7-3, Diamonds 9-7-2, Clubs K-J-10-5-3. What do you do?

Answer Tomorrow



"But if it's as serious as all that, shouldn't I get a better doctor?"

YOUR BIRTHDAY ... By STELLA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

BORN today, you are a warier and sadder than most. You are a natural-born fighter and you spare no effort to win—and no holds are barred!

Your emotions are near the surface and your temper is what is known as "high." However, you learn early to control it, except when especially provoked. Then, those feelings that lie deep in your heart may well be war!

You have a native honesty and sincerity that is refreshing. Yet, you do have personal biases which make it difficult for you always to be just as you should be. You are violently loyal in friendship and once a friend—always a friend. No matter what that friend may do, you will fight his cause to the bitter end, even though deep in your heart, you may actually know he is wrong!

On the other hand, you are blunt and outspoken. If you dislike something or someone you never hesitate to talk about it and, when really

pushed, you will do something about it, too. You are a natural-born fighter and you spare no effort to win—and no holds are barred!

Among those who were born on this day are Andrew Johnson, U.S. President; William F. Gladstone, British statesman; Carmen Sylva, Spanish poet; Charles Goodyear, inventor of rubber; and William T. Sedgewick, biologist.

To find what the stars have in store for you tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)—Cultural and intellectual matters are highly favoured. Make progress in some important project.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—If involved in literary job, get important writing done. Otherwise, just a good day for letter-writing.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—Your brain should be in top-top working condition today. Do something that calls for concentrated brainwork.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—A normally good day for most things, but especially luck for studying, research or making a report.

BY THE WAY

By Beachcomber

It has been pointed out repeatedly that no-way streets, intended to relieve congestion in one, two, or three-way streets, can only increase the present confusion.

The no-way street itself would, of course, be free from traffic-jams, as there would be no traffic, but how, on earth, can this relieve the other streets? In fact, the no-way street is mere defeatism. It attempts to solve the problem of traffic-jams by ignoring them, and living an aloof life of its own.

In what Mrs. Cyprian Bowle, his well called shadow-girl with the turned-about name, said: "It's table manners. You really don't know them at all, Blackie. You're the most untable-mannered kitten in the whole world, I guess."

Blackie the kitten was sitting in the middle of the rocking chair, right in the middle of the spot of sunlight. She blinked up at Hanid but she didn't say anything.

Instructing A Kitten

Hanid made her move over a little and sat down beside her.

"I don't suppose," Hanid went on, "that you've ever heard of table manners; have you, Blackie?"

Blackie didn't say whether she had or she hadn't.

"Table manners, my dear Blackie, are the manners you're supposed to have when you're sitting at table. For instance, it means that you don't eat soup with a fork, or stir your pudding with a knife. Do you understand?"

How could Hanid know whether Blackie understood or not? She just kept blinking up at her.

"Now there's one rule in table manners, Blackie, that no one ever disobeys...not even a kitten. You may be sure that anyone who does disobey it has the worst table manners in the world. And this rule is table

manners that no one ever disobeys is—Never walk on the table!"

Very Bad Manners

Hanid waited for a minute or two for the kitten to sink into Blackie.

"It's bad table manners to walk on the table," Hanid repeated.

Blackie looked at Hanid with an expression on her little face that seemed to say: "Did I ever walk on the table, Hanid? You must be mistaken. When did I ever walk on the table?"

"You walked on it yesterday. I saw you myself," said Hanid.

"I'll tell you just when it happened. Mother and Father and the children had just finished their dinner. Mother was just going into the kitchen with some of the dishes when.... without a sound.... quick as a flash.... you sprang from the floor to the chair, and from the chair right up to the top of the table!"

Hanid paused to see if Blackie was listening. She was.

"Then what did you do, Blackie? You walked up and down the table as though it were a sidewalk. On one of the plates you found a fish bone. Oh, how bright your eyes shone! When you eyed that fish bone, you snatched it up in your teeth."

A Naughty Kitten

"Now it was bad enough," continued Hanid, "to jump upon the table and find a piece of fish

bone. That was really very bad table manners! But you did something even worse. Instead of eating the fish bone on the plate, which is what a good table-mannered cat would have done, you heard Mother returning from the kitchen and instantly sprang down from the table with the fish bone in your mouth. If there's anything worse than jumping upon a table, Blackie, it's jumping down from a table!"

Blackie listened to this whole story without a single word of protest. She just lay there blinking up at Hanid and finally Hanid walked off not knowing whether Blackie intended to improve her very bad table manners or (which is more likely) didn't understand a word of what Hanid had said.

AVAILABLE AT BOTH STORES

Whiteaways

HONGKONG & KOWLOON

Whiteaways

HONGKONG & KOWLOON

Whiteaways

HONGKONG & KOWLOON

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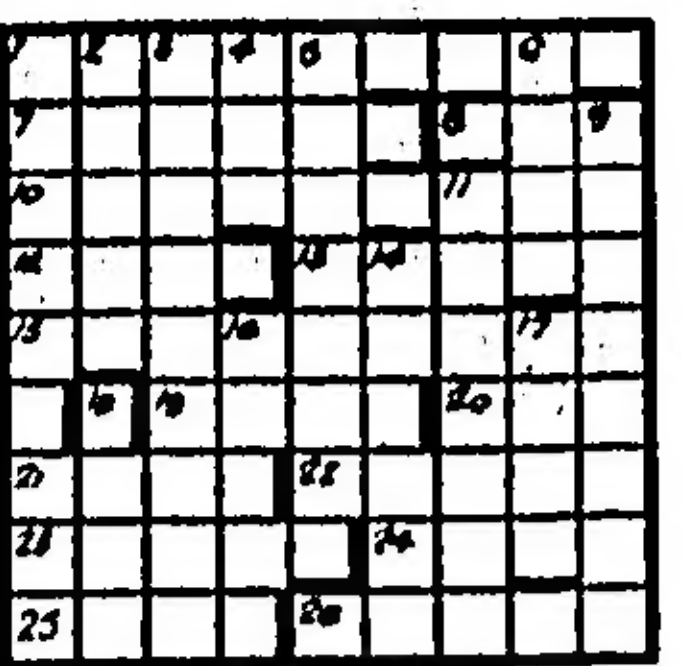
Whiteaways

HONGKONG & KOWLOON

Whiteaways

HONGKONG & KOWLOON

CROSSWORD



Across

1. Not a wink, these nights. (6)

2. It introduces the song about the yellow basket. (5)

3. The fish might pull some body's leg. (3)

10. Spare note might be made of this tongue. (9)

12. The girl at the end of the um-brella. (4)

13. His delight made a play. (5)

15. You're apt to run into some-thing if this is out. (4, 5)

19. The witch's high one is at mid-night. (4)

20. Quick one is in your toiled maybe. (3)

21. Supply is the 11 down one. (4)

22. Butler towards the end. (5)

23. Mountain of the Dance—but not in Denmark. (5)

24. Otherwise from peel seen. (4)

25. If they have it, the Bill is not used. (4)

26. Such a touching poem. (6)

Down

1. Sea guide—but nothing girlish. (5)

2. Tired town. (5)

3. Mix up pea in a sedan. (6)

4. It's in the middle where the creek ends. (3)

5. The Downy and Bridge were in steep place. (6)

6. And (2, 3)

9. Can such a sooty dote let (8)

11. The programme may say the show is once this or twice. (7)

16. The snow is this way for Wencesla's page. (6)

17. Shoe is about to make more than one. (4)

18. Old time clown. (4)

19. The snow is this way for Wencesla's page. (6)

20. Shoe is about to make more than one. (4)

21. The snow is this way for Wencesla's page. (6)

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98. Shoe is about to make more than one. (4)

99. The snow is this way for Wencesla's page. (6)

P&O B.I. E&A COMPANIES

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL S.N. CO.

PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Leaves London	Due Hongkong
"CANTON"	10th Jan. 1955	10th Jan. 1955
"CHUNAN"	10th Jan. 1955	10th Jan. 1955
"CARTHAGE"	10th Jan. 1955	10th Jan. 1955
"CORFU"	10th Jan. 1955	10th Jan. 1955

Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Penang & Singapore

Homewards	Leaves Hongkong	Due London
"CANTON"	14th Jan. 1955	14th Feb. 1955
"CHUNAN"	2nd Feb. 1955	2nd March 1955
"CARTHAGE"	10th Feb. 1955	10th March 1955
"CORFU"	10th Mar. 1955	10th Apr. 1955

Via Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Aden, Port Said & London

FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Leaves London	Due Hongkong
"SUDAN"	10th Jan. 1955	10th Jan. 1955
"SOMALI"	10th Jan. 1955	10th Jan. 1955
"SOMALI"	10th Jan. 1955	10th Jan. 1955

With liberty to call at Belawan before or after Straits Ports and at Bombay if circumstances require.

Tanks available for carriage of Oil in Bulk. Space for refrigerated cargo. Limited Passenger accommodation.

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"SANGOLA"	10th Jan. 1955	10th Jan. 1955
"SANTHA"	10th Jan. 1955	10th Jan. 1955

P. & O. B. I. JOINT SERVICE

Outwards	Leaves London	Due Hongkong
"ORDIA"	10th Jan. 1955	10th Jan. 1955
"OZARDA"	10th Jan. 1955	10th Jan. 1955
"OLINDA"	10th Jan. 1955	10th Jan. 1955

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN S.S. CO., LTD.

Outwards	Leaves London	Due Hongkong
"EASTERN"	10th Jan. 1955	10th Jan. 1955

All vessels have liberty to call at any ports on or off the route & the route & sailing are subject to change or amendment with or without notice.

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OF HONG KONG LTD.
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(AFTERNOON)

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KOWLOON OFFICE:
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ing Cards, Envelopes etc. Orders
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MORFAT WHIPPING for all party
occasions. It is an excellent
Whipping Cream at a most reasonable
price. 11 oz. tin \$1.20, 24 oz. tin \$2.40.
Also Morfat 20 a fine table cream—
11 oz. tin \$1.20. Obtainable at all
grocers.

HAUSER PACKING CONTRACTOR
for personal household and effects,
supply packing cases, panthechnicon,
immediate delivery materials. 22B
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SOMETHING NEW AND EXCLUSIVE.
Fresh stocks received of collectors
packets of assorted stamps. From
20 cents per packet upwards. An
entirely new series. South China
Morning Post Ltd. Wyndham Street
and Salisbury Road, Kowloon.

NOTICE

H.M. DOCKYARD,
HONG KONG

An examination for entry
as local Clerk, Grade III will
be held in H.M. Dockyard,
Hong Kong, on Thursday, 10th
February 1955.

2. Intending candidates
must be between the ages of
18 and 30 years and must be
British subjects. Production
of a birth certificate or satis-
factory equivalent will be
required.

3. A limited number of
places at this examination are
available, and a form of
application for competition
together with conditions of
entry may be obtained from

"The Secretary,
H.M. Dockyard,
Hong Kong."

by written request before
Monday 17th January 1955.
Envelopes should be marked
"Examination — Section B".

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

S.S. "TAIPING"
Arrived 26th December, 1954

Damaged cargo on this vessel will
be surveyed by Messrs. Goddard &
Douglas at Hong Kong & Kowloon
Wharf Godown at 10.00 a.m. on
Thursday 30th December and Friday
31st December, 1954, and consignees
representatives are requested to be
present during survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents,
Australian-Oriental Line Ltd.
China Navigation Co., Ltd.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

P.O. Box 53 Queen's Building Tel: 26651

FAST PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE

"VIETNAM" sailing Dec. 31st
"CAMBODGE" sailing Feb. 25th

FAST FREIGHT SERVICE

"MEKONG" (1) sailing Jan. 9th
"DONAI" sailing Feb. 11th
(1) will call at London

47 KILLED IN LANDSLIDES

Bogota, Dec. 28.
Official reports from Quibdo
in Northwestern Colombia said
today that fatalities from recent
landslides in the El Carmen
area had reached 47.

Because of the threat of new
slides, several settlements in
the vicinity have been evacuated,
it was added.

Damage caused by the slides
was estimated to exceed \$250,-
000.

Relief parties were rushed to
the stricken area from Quibdo,
capital of El Choco Department.
—United Press.



HARRY
ODELL
says

For many here, perhaps the
chance of a life-time to
hear as great a pianist as
JULIUS KATCHEN,
and at the popular price of
\$4.70. I do not believe
that a genuine music lover
or student of music will find
this price high for such a
great artist. Please book
now at the

EMPIRE THEATRE

Town Booking Office,
Shell House, side lane.

Rayon Works For Formosa

New York, Dec. 28.
The Von Kohnen Inter-
national Corporation of
New York, builders and
operators of rayon fac-
tories, today announced
the conclusion of a contract
and financial arrangements
under which a \$5,000,000
rayon factory would be
constructed on Formosa.

The factory would be
owned by a group of
Chinese textile manufac-
turers who had formed
the China Artificial Fibre
Corporation and were re-
ceiving the support of the
Nationalist Chinese
Government. Most of the
machinery was to be sup-
plied by Von Kohnen from
Japan, where its equipment
is manufactured by its
Japanese licensee. The
Export-Import Bank of
Japan had agreed to
finance the deliveries.
Construction of the fac-
tory will start early in
1955 and production is
scheduled for April 1956.
Four million pounds weight
of filament yarn, will be
produced annually.
—Reuter.

Crime Wave Warning By FBI Chief

New York, Dec. 28.
The FBI chief, J. Edgar
Hoover, said today that one
of every 16 American teenagers
between the ages of 15 and 17
was a juvenile delinquent.

"If this trend continues, we
shall face a crime wave of
grave proportions during the
late 1950s and early 1960s,"
wrote Mr. Hoover in the Ameri-
can Magazine. "The teen-age
population is about to rise
spectacularly because of a much
higher birth rate during the war
years."

Mr. Hoover warned that if
juvenile delinquency was not
checked, "the next generation
will witness a total of more than
41,800,000 larcenies, 15,800,000
burglaries, 7,400,000 automobile
thefts, 2,000,000 robberies,
3,000,000 aggravated assaults,
and more than 200,000 Ameri-
cans will be murdered." —United
Press.

Our Skin Protects Us From The Outside World

Standing guard night and day to protect us
against the outside world is our skin. It resists
heat and cold alike, so that the body can maintain
a constant, even temperature. As long as it
remains intact, dangerous germs can enter the
body only with great difficulty.

The skin has definite func-
tions. It is one of our most
important conveyors of sensa-
tion; not only does it receive the
impacts of the outside world,
but also its nerves signal to the
body and the brain the nature
of that contact. It registers the
temperatures of wind and water
and whatever else touches it; it
reports on the textures of
things. It senses movement,
vibration, even certain kinds of
sound that our ears cannot hear
—just as the heat that it de-
tects is really a form of light
our eyes cannot see. It also
detects an injury with its rich
supply of pain-sensitive nerves.

Exposed to constant attack,
the skin is subject to damage
and illnesses of many kinds.
First, any injury from an out-
side source — from blows,
wounds, chemicals, extremes of
temperature, or invading germs.
Second, disorders which stem
from inside the body, including
emotional disturbances, internal
infections, or faulty nutrition.

Finally, disturbances resulting
from a combination of outside
and inside influences; for
example, allergic disorders
caused by the body's unusual
sensitivity to certain substances.

ORDINARY WOUNDS

The ordinary wound is im-
portant mainly as a gateway for
disease germs. The only im-
portant bacteria that can pene-
trate the unbroken skin are the
staphylococci which cause boils
and carbuncles. Other germs
must wait for the defending
wall to be breached. The
break, however, need not be
large. Scratches so small they
go unnoticed can lead to serious
illness by allowing minute
microbes to enter the body.
Protection of the skin from
infections is a matter of simple
cleanliness, and of promptly

treating cuts and abrasions, no
matter how minor they may
seem. If, in spite of such pre-
cautions, an infection does
develop, modern medicine usu-
ally can cope with it.

The reactions of the skin to
diseases inside the body are
often specific enough to tell the
physician just where to look for
the trouble. A bluish tinge to
the skin, for instance, usually
means that something may be
wrong with the heart. Scarlet
fever, measles and chicken pox
cause the skin to break out in
various types of rash, each of
which tells its own story to the
doctor. And, of course, the
skin shows many general signs,
such as sweating and pallor,
when things go awry internally.
Some internal disorders
affecting the skin also affect the
mind. For instance, in some
forms of pellagra (a nutritional
disease caused by a deficiency
of niacin, one of the B vitamins),
not only does the patient's skin
show eruptions, but he may
imagine also that miles are
biting him. Both the eruptions
and the delusions vanish with
treatment.

MORE STARTLING

A more startling phenomenon
is the so-called leprosy, or
"Hansen's disease," in which the
skin on one part of the body imitates
a condition found on another
part. A fungus infection of the
toes, for instance, may be
followed by apparently identical
outbreaks on the hands, even
though the hands have never
touched the original infection.

The skin is not only a great
barrier protecting our bodies
from external attack, but it also
serves as a mirror of what is
happening within. The more
we learn of the signs that are
shown in this mirror, the better
we will know how to deal with
diseases not only of the skin,
but also of the entire body.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



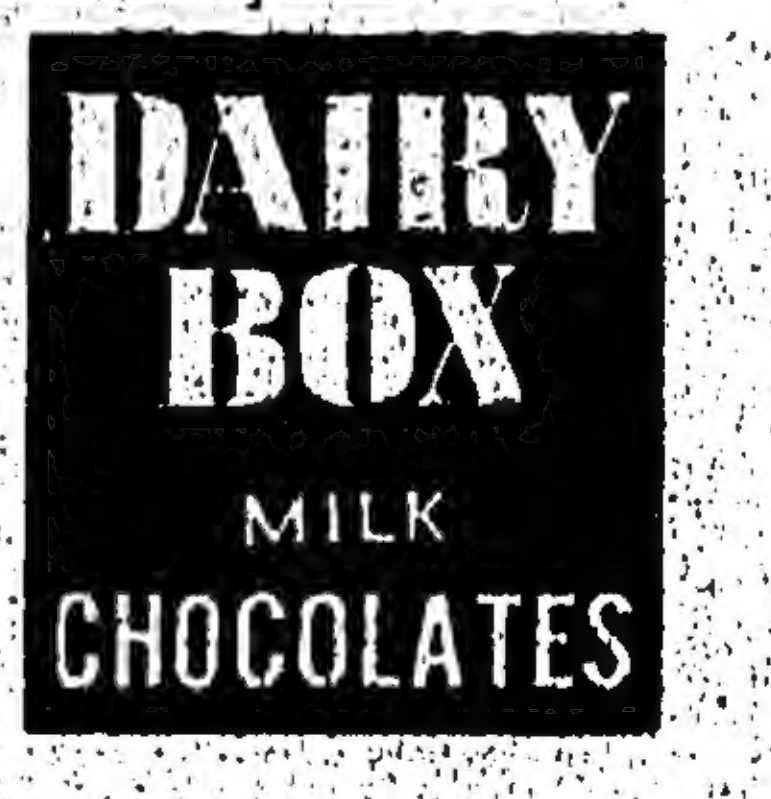
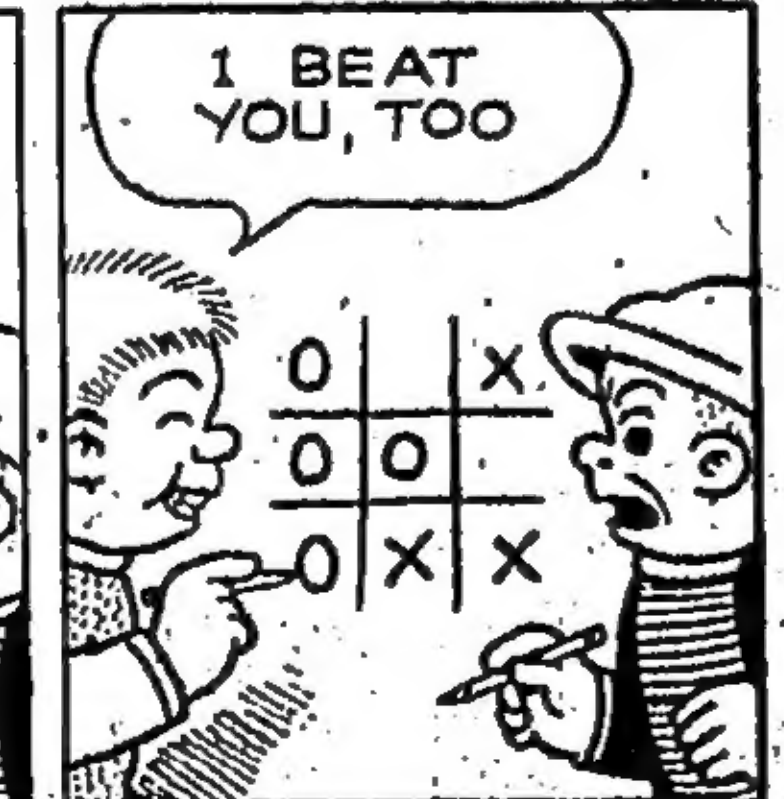
FERD'NAND

By Milk



NANCY

By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



EVERETT LINES

Fast regular freight — refrigerator —
passenger service to Korea, Japan,
Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya,
Rangoon, Calcutta and Chittagong.

"BRADEVERETT"

Arrives Jan. 4 from Manila.
Sails Jan. 5 for Singapore, Penang,
Rangoon & Calcutta.

"LENEVERETT"

Arrives Jan. 14 from Manila.
Sails Jan. 15 for Singapore, Penang,
Rangoon, Calcutta &
Chittagong.

(Accepting cargo for transshipment
Kobe/Fusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STAR LINE

Fast regular freight — refrigerator —
passenger service to Korea, Japan,
Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya,
Colombo, Bombay, Karachi and Persian Gulf.

"STAR ALCYONE"

Arrives Dec. 31 from Cebu.
Sails Jan. 1 for Kobe & Yokohama.

"THAI"

Arrives Jan. 11 from Japan.
Sails Jan. 12 for Singapore, Port Swetten-
ham, Madras, Colombo,
Bombay, Karachi, Basrah,
Kuwait & Bahrain.

(Accepting cargo for transshipment
Kobe/Fusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STEAMSHIP CORPORATION S/A

(Incorporated in the Republic of Panama
with limited liability)
Chinese Department: Telephone 28293.
Queen's Building, Telephone 31206.

In treating certain kinds of
crippling disease, doctors are
frequently faced with a severe
problem. To aid recovery, the
patients need to exercise. But
they may be in no condition to
leave their beds without being
carried. If they are to do exer-
cise, they must do it lying on
their backs. Because his wife,
a victim of multiple sclerosis
(crippling nerve disease), was
in this condition, a US inventor
decided to do something about it.

He built a machine called a
restorator, which works like the
pedals on a bicycle. It is port-
able, since it weighs only twenty
pounds (ten kilos). Attached
to the bed at home, it allows
patients to exercise their limbs
while lying flat on their backs.
In the past, they have had to
be taken to hospitals where
there was special equipment for
such exercise.

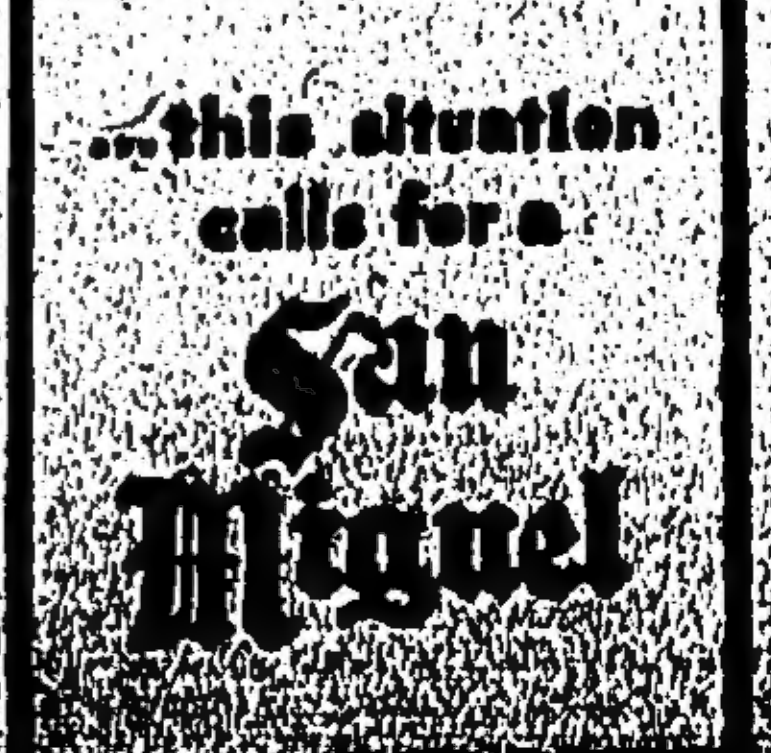
The fencer has the longest
active life in his sport of any
Japanese athlete, research
workers at Kyushu University
report. He carries on, on the
average, for more than 25 years.
Jockeys, Drs N. Saruta and T.
Kawazoe found, stay in the
saddle an average of 22 years,
while the Japanese tennis player
keeps going for 18 years,
and the table-tennis player 16
years. Field athletes, on the
other hand, average only eight
active years, and the swimmer
slightly less than nine.

These figures emerged from a
study of the lives of nearly
5,000 persons participating in 12
different sports popular in
Japan. The researchers also
examined the reason why
athletes retire. "Decline in
physical fitness, cuts off the
careers of most wrestlers and
jockeys, but is unimportant in
retiring tennis players and
fencers.

Commenting on the findings,
the Canadian Medical Association
Journal has suggested that
similar studies in Europe and
America might "be of value in
dispelling a number of current
myths about sports and sports-
men." —(ISPS).

Washington, Dec. 28.
The working committee of the
Southeast Asia Treaty Organi-
zation met in the State De-
partment here today to discuss
preparations for the SEATO
Council meeting in Bangkok in
February, authoritative sources
said today.

The Committee is composed
of representatives of the eight
Member States of SEATO: the
United States, Britain,
France, Australia, New Zealand,
Canada, Pakistan and the
Philippines.



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CHINA MAIL

Page 10

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1954.

Sheaffer's
"SNORKEL"

From Our Files

100 Years Ago

Notice Of Removal

Mrs. Marsh begs to inform her customers, that in consequence of Removal to more commodious premises, her present Millinery Rooms will be closed on the 23rd instant, and will re-open on the 1st of January. (In the House lately occupied by Mr. J. J. Dos Remedios, adjoining the Hongkong Dispensary,) with a well-assorted stock of New and Fashionable goods.
 Hongkong, 20th December, 1894

The letter of a Tea-Taster, on "all Faults Tea," is in type, but must stand over till next week.

The report of the case Palmer v. Barclay must also stand over. **NEGOTIATIONS AT CANTON**
 The negotiations at Canton have resulted in nothing, except to leave matters in a worse condition, both for ourselves and the Chinese, than before. The projected conference between the Governor General and Sir John Bowring within the city has been broken off, fortunately perhaps, under the circumstances; and as Admiral Stirling's object in visiting Canton was to have a private affair, it is a pity he had not deemed it necessary to take with him a large force, to be withdrawn when pay day was over, and he had made his purchases of lackerware, and sanctioned a previous project for protecting the foreign factories in the event of fire; in the mean while passively regarding the burning of Fuh-shan.

It appears that on the morning of the 21st the "Patriots" tried to seize the inhabitants of that place for the fourth time; and the latter, having then nothing but their lives to lose, attempted to burn down their oppressors. The British riflemen thereupon set fire to the town in various parts, and spared all who tried to escape, men, women, and children. The slaughter was dreadful, amounting, according to Chinese accounts, to several thousands, burned or killed by violence.

The fire burned furiously, and was clearly distinguishable from the tops of the houses at Canton; but though only about eight miles off, neither humanity, nor the fact of Fuh-shan being an important mart of foreign commerce, weighed with those who had the means, to send a single boat or man to assist. A great portion of the town has now been destroyed, and such of its people as escaped with their lives have been driven to despair.

Sir John Bowring returns shortly to Hongkong; and Admiral Stirling, after the Christmas festivities, will probably proceed to Singapore.

SEBASTOPOL SIEGE
 A telegraphic message has just arrived from St. Petersburg through Paris, which states that the siege opened at Sebastopol on the 17th, that 500 Russians were killed during the day, but that little harm was done to the batteries either on the land or sea side.

Of course a message from St. Petersburg passes for very little here. If the siege has been opened and the Russians admit 500 to be killed, there must be more behind.

The Tartars of the Crimea are said to be in a state of insurrection—2,000 having been arrested in consequence. Admiral Koroff is said to have been killed.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T.
 6. Time Signal and Programme Summary; 6.55. Lucky Dip—Variety Recitals presented by Marguerite (Studio); 7.00. Weather Report; 7.10. Time Signal and World News (London Relay); 7.15. Commentary (London Relay); 7.20. Special Announcement; 7.25. Fleet Ticker; 7.30. Morning at the piano (Concert Hall); 7.35. Twenty Questions from "Studio"; 7.40. Radio Hongkong Question Master; 7.45. Butler. The Twenty Questions; 7.50. Studio; 7.55. Studio; 8.00. Studio; 8.05. Studio; 8.10. Studio; 8.15. Studio; 8.20. Studio; 8.25. Studio; 8.30. Studio; 8.35. Studio; 8.40. Studio; 8.45. Studio; 8.50. Studio; 8.55. Studio; 9.00. Studio; 9.05. Studio; 9.10. Studio; 9.15. Studio; 9.20. Studio; 9.25. Studio; 9.30. Studio; 9.35. Studio; 9.40. Studio; 9.45. Studio; 9.50. Studio; 9.55. Studio; 10.00. Studio; 10.05. Studio; 10.10. Studio; 10.15. Studio; 10.20. Studio; 10.25. Studio; 10.30. Studio; 10.35. Studio; 10.40. Studio; 10.45. Studio; 10.50. Studio; 10.55. Studio; 11.00. Studio; 11.05. Studio; 11.10. 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